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TECHNICAL NOTES

LAKE STATES FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION
UNIVERSITY FARM ST. PAUL 8, MINNESOTA

PLEASE RETURN TO
ERNST J. SCHREINER

No. 269

How Many Small Fence Posts to a Cord?

The wood and steel shortage during the war necessitated the use of large numbers of small untreated fence posts on mid-western farms. Many of these were cut from less durable local tree species of sapling age. Although such posts deteriorate rapidly if untreated, they can be made quite durable by treatment with preservatives. Because of the continuous need for fence posts, the use of such small material will probably continue. In anticipation of increased future demands for treated small posts of local origin, a measurement study was recently conducted in young stands in northern Minnesota to determine the average number of posts in a cord. The table below shows the number of 6-, 7-, and 8-foot posts per cord of small sized aspen and pine.

		: Number of unpeeled posts per standard cord					
Top diameter :		Aspen			Pine		
inside bark :		6-foot	7-foot	8-foot	6-foot	7-foot	8-foot
Inches		Number	Number	Number	Number	Number	Number
1.6 - 2.5		...	...	...	281	241	211
2.0 - 2.5		253	218	190	248	212	186
2.6 - 3.5		200	171	150	203	174	152
3.6 - 4.0 ^{1/}		156	135	117	147	126	110
3.6 - 4.5		...	...	...	136	116	102 ^{2/}

^{1/} 4.0 inch top, inside bark, is the present minimum diameter acceptable for aspen pulpwood.

^{2/} This number is somewhat higher than that shown in Technical Note No. 197 because the posts are straighter than average pulpwood and most of the posts were taken from the entire tree whereas the ordinary run of pulpwood contains many sticks from the top ends of larger trees.

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